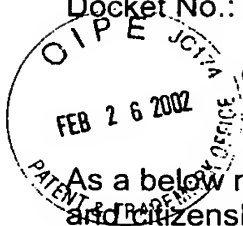


BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Docket No.: WMP-IFT-007



COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION FOR DRIVING A SEMICONDUCTOR SWITCHING ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR SAME

described and claimed in the specification bearing that title, that I understand the content of the specification, that I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve month prior to this application, that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56a, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate of this invention has been filed earlier than the following in any country foreign to the United States prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns:

German Application No. 100 64 123.7, filed December 21, 2000, the International Priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

HERBERT L. LERNER (Reg.No.20,435)
LAURENCE A. GREENBERG (Reg.No.29,308)
WERNER H. STEMER (Reg.No.34,956)
RALPH E. LOCHER (Reg. No. 41,947)

Address all correspondence and telephone calls to:

LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A.
POST OFFICE BOX 2480
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF FIRST JOINT INVENTOR: THOMAS THEOBALD

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Thomas Theobald

DATE: 29.1.2002

Residence: MÜNCHEN, GERMANY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Country of Citizenship: GERMANY

Post Office Address: GOZBERTSTR. 5
D-81547 MÜNCHEN
GERMANY

FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR: LUDWIG LEIPOLD (deceased)

FIRST HEIR OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR: BRIGITTE HIEBL-LEIPOLD

FIRST HEIR'S SIGNATURE: Brigitte Hiebl-Leipold

DATE: 22.1.2002

Residence: MÜNCHEN, GERMANY

Country of Citizenship: GERMANY

Post Office Address: AN DER KREUZBREITE 19
D-81929 MÜNCHEN
GERMANY

SECOND HEIR OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR: STEFAN-MICHAEL LEIPOLD

SECOND HEIR'S SIGNATURE: _____

Brigitte Hirsch-Leipold
Franz Hirsch

DATE: 22.1.2002

Residence: MÜNCHEN, GERMANY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Country of Citizenship: GERMANY

Post Office Address: AN DER KREUZBREITE 19
D-81929 MÜNCHEN
GERMANY
